nitrocellulose replicas of the library plaques were prehybridized in 6x SSC, 5x Denhart's solution containing 0.1% SDS and 0.1 mg/ml denaturated salmon DNA for 2 hours at 65°C. Hybridization was carried out at 42°C in the same solution containing ^{32}P-labeled probe for 16-18 hours. The filters were washed two times with 2x SSC, 0.5% SDS and two times with 0.5x SSC, 1% SDS at the same temperature. The library was repeatedly screened twice under the same conditions. Finally, the entire cDNA phage library was subjected to PCR amplification using the lgt10 forward and reverse primers (Clontech) with a epimerase cDNA specific primer (SEQ ID NO: 1) (5'-GCTGATTCTTTTCTGTC-3').--

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 1, with the following:

--Table I
Peptide and primer sequences

A. N-terminal sequences of isolated C5-epimerase

1. PNDWXVPKGCFMA (SEQ ID NO: 2) (free solution)
2. PXDWTVPKGXF (SEQ ID NO: 3) (band excised from PVDF-membrane)

B. Peptide sequences

1. PNDXTVPK (SEQ ID NO: 4)
2. XXIAPETSEGXSLQL (SEQ ID NO: 5)
3. GGWPIMVTRK (SEQ ID NO: 6)
4. FLSEQHGV (SEQ ID NO: 7)
5. KAMLPLYDTGSGTIYDLRHFMLGIAPNLAXWDYHTT (SEQ ID NO: 8)

	primer 1 (sense)	primer 2 (sense)	primer 3 (antisense)

C. Primer[a]

		Degeneracy
1 (S)	5'-cc gaattcAARGCNATGYTNCCNTY-3'[b] (SEQ ID NO 9)	384
2 (S)	5'-cc gaattcGAYYTNMGNCAYTTYATG-3'(SEQ ID NO 10)	288
3 (AS)	5'-cc ggatccGTNGTRTGRTARTCCCA-3' (SEQ ID NO: 11)	32

[a] (R, A or G; Y, T or C; M, C or A; N, A or C or G or T)
[b] (cc, clamp; gaatcc, EcoRI restriction site; ggatcc, BamHI restriction site)--

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 1, with the following:

--SEQUENCE LISTING (SEQ ID NOS: 12 & 13)--